

NOTICE

The Annual Town Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at the Merrimac Town Hall.

The clerk will read the minutes of the 2003 meeting.

The annual financial statement for 2003 will be presented.

A Summary of the Powers of the Town Meeting follows (incomplete list):

1) Direct Powers

- a) Raise money, including levying of taxes, to pay for town expenses, unless the town meeting has delegated authority to the board.
- b) Town offices and officers
 - Set the compensation for elective town officers unless the town meeting has delegated such authority to the town board.
 - Combine the offices of town clerk and town treasurer.
 - Combine the offices of town clerk and town assessor.
 - Designate the offices of town clerk, town treasurer or the combined office clerk and treasurer as part-time.
 - Establish or abolish the office of town constable and set the number of constables.
 - Designate town board officers as full-time officers.
- c) Election of town officers
 - Adopt a plan to elect town board supervisors to numbered seats.
 - Abolish the town caucus and instead provide for the election of town officers by nomination papers and a town primary election.

2) The following directives or grants of authority may be made to the town board by resolution:

- a) Raise money (see 1(a) above).
- b) In a town with a population of at least 2500 direct the town board to increase the membership of the board.
- c) Exercise of village powers.
- d) Authorize the town board to issue general obligation bonds for public purposes.
- e) Purchase of land.
- f) Authorize the town board to purchase, lease or construct buildings for town use.
- g) Authorize the town board to dispose of town property.
- h) Exercise of certain zoning authority.
- i) Watershed protection and soil and water conservation.
- j) Authorize the town board to appoint an assessor.
- k) Authorize the town board to fix the compensation of elective town officers other than the office of town board supervisor.
- l) Authorize the town board to exceed \$10,000 in highway and bridge expenditures in a year.

3) Authorization to the town board to appropriate money:

- a) Conservation of natural resources
- b) Civic and other functions, such as tourist and industrial promotion.
- c) The control of insect pests, weeds and plant or animal diseases within the town.
- d) Posting signs and otherwise cooperating with the county in the establishment of a rural numbering system for rural roads, homes, businesses, farms and other establishments.